

July 2, 2013

BY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
12th Street Lobby – TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

***Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation
PS Docket Nos. 13-75 & 11-60***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 28, 2013, Tony Bardo, Vice President, Hughes Network Systems, LLC, an EchoStar company, and the undersigned met with Jeff Goldthorp, Eric Schmidt, and Cecilia Mateo of the Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau with regard to the above-captioned proceeding.

Mr. Bardo focused on a single aspect of the proceeding, path diversity, and he addressed the benefits that satellite connectivity delivers as a true alternate communications path for emergency preparedness. As EchoStar's comments in this proceeding noted, NRIC and CSRIC have developed 911 path diversity best practices, and the bureau has recognized satellite technology as a way to fulfill this path diversity.¹

EchoStar and Hughes currently provide government agencies with emergency networking solutions for redundancy and continuity of operations.² The Hughes Spaceway satellite limits the risk of networking failure by providing true point-to-point satellite connectivity to on-site communications facilities – a hubless architecture that does not require

¹ See Comments of EchoStar Corporation, PS Docket Nos. 13-75 & 11-60, at 2 (filed May 13, 2013) (citing e.g., NRIC Best Practice 8-7-0566, available at <https://www.fcc.gov/nors/outage/bestpractice/ProcessBestPractice.cfm?RequestTimeout=500>; FCC Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau, "Tech Topic 14: Diversity, Redundancy, and Resiliency – in that Order," available at <http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/techtopics/techtopics14.html>).

² See News Release, *Hughes Announces New Emergency Networking Solutions for Hurricane Season: Solutions Ensure Government and Business Networks Stay Up When Disaster Strikes* (June 3, 2013) available at https://s3.amazonaws.com/gwx_hughes/uploads/38fa51e0-ae7b-0130-ff0d-4040a5068ef5/Hurricane-Prep-Final-06-03-13.pdf.

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any terrestrial connection between a satellite network earth station and the customer site. On-site satellite facilities run roughly \$3,500-\$5,000 per site, and service plans vary based on customer need with backup service plans available. Spaceway operates with approximately 100 spot beams across the nation and is able to reallocate power from one spot beam to another to boost power in an area affected by outages. With policy-based routing and automatic failure detection and switchover capabilities between primary and backup links, the Hughes solutions complement existing primary networks and offer true emergency preparedness.

Mr. Bardo pointed out that satellite has a proven track record in public safety emergency communications preparedness. By way of example, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) is employing an advanced Hughes broadband satellite solution to provide backup communications when its terrestrial network fails. The statewide solution connects more than 100 sites, including police, health, and county emergency operations centers. Similarly, Hughes is providing continuity services in support of emergency preparedness activities in Texas. These services provide satellite broadband communications to back-up primary terrestrial networks and emergency connectivity for transportable units. The attached schematic was provided during the meeting to illustrate Spaceway's capabilities to enable emergency preparedness for statewide PSAP connectivity. Mr. Bardo concluded that as the Commission considers path diversity, it should recognize satellite as a valued, reliable option for route diversity.

Pursuant to section 1.206(b)(1) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(1), this *ex parte* notification is being filed for inclusion in the public record of the above-referenced proceeding.

Sincerely,

/s/
Adam D. Krinsky

Enclosure

cc: Jeff Goldthorp
Eric Schmidt
Cecilia Mateo

Figure: Hughes Satellite Solution for a State PSAP Backup

